

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

VIA FAX (916-653-3214) and FIRST CLASS MAIL

B. Jerry Ellison Supervising Special Investigator California Election Fraud Unit 1500 11th Street, Room 590 Sacramento, CA 95814

APR 2 1 2004

RE: MUR 4919

Dear Mr. Ellison:

This is in reference to the matter you referred to the Federal Election Commission on April 12, 1999.

After conducting an investigation into this matter, the Commission, on June 19, 2002, found probable cause to believe that Charles Ball for Congress knowingly and willfully violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441d(a) and 441h, and that Justin Briggs, as treasurer, violated 2 U.S.C. §§ 441d(a) and 441h, provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended ("the Act"). The Commission conciliated with these respondents who admitted to these violations, were required to pay a \$24,000 civil penalty, and agreed to cease and desist from violating these sections of the Act. A copy of the agreement with these respondents is enclosed for your information.

The Commission also found probable cause to believe Adrian Plesha knowingly and willfully violated 2 U.S.C. § 441h, a provision of the Act, and referred Plesha to the Department of Justice ("DOJ") for criminal prosecution pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 437g(A)(5)(C). On September 10, 2003, Plesha pleaded guilty to making false statements to the Commission, a felony violation under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. On November 21, 2003, Plesha was sentenced in the District of Columbia federal court to a three-year term of probation, a \$5,000 criminal fine, and 160 hours of community service. Subsequently, the Commission conciliated with Plesha on the 441h violation. Plesha admitted to the violation, was required to pay a \$60,000 civil penalty, and agreed to cease and desist from violating this section of the Act. A copy of the agreement with Plesha is enclosed for your information.

Documents related to the case will be placed on the public record within 30 days. See Statement of Policy Regarding Disclosure of Closed Enforcement and Related Files, 68 Fed. Reg. 70,426 (Dec. 18, 2003).

We appreciate your assistance in helping the Commission meet its enforcement responsibilities under the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971, as amended. We are particularly grateful to Senior Investigator Ric Ciaramella and Investigator Mark Loren, who responded to all of our requests in a thorough and highly professional manner. If you have any questions, please contact Dominique Dillenseger, the attorney assigned to this matter, at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,

Lawrence H. Norton General Counsel

BY: Rhonda J. Vosdingh

Rhonda J. Vosdingh Associate General Counsel

for Enforcement

Enclosures
Conciliation Agreements